Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraphs on page 4, lines 6-30, as follows:

Thus, the present invention provides a method of enhancing expression of a nucleic acid encoding a desired protein at mucosal effectors sites, said method comprising placing the protein to be expressed under the control of a promoter having SEQ ID NO 2, SED ID NO 3 or SEQ ID NO 4 or a fragment or variant or any of these which has promoter activity, and causing expression in mucosal cells.

In a particular embodiment, the invention uses ~~Further according to the present invention, there is provided~~ a construct comprising a promoter selected from the P_{ompc}, P_{phoP} and P_{pagC} or fragment and variants thereof which can act as promoters, operatively interconnected with a nucleic acid which encodes a protein, able to induce a protective immune response against an organism, in a mammal to which it is administered, wherein said construct contains no further elements of the $_{ompC}$, $_{phoP}$ or $_{pagC}$ gene.

The present invention further includes ~~provides~~ a recombinant gut-colonizing microorganism which comprises a promoter selected from the P_{ompC}, P_{phoP} and P_{pagC} or fragments or variants thereof which can act as promoters, said promoter being operatively interconnected with a nucleic acid which encodes a heterologous protein, able to induce a protective immune response against a different organism, in a mammal to which it is administered.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 1-31, as follows:

Recombinant gut-colonising microorganism as described above can be used to deliver a variety of antigenic agents, which can be used to induce a protective immune response against a wide range of pathogens. Pathogens, which may be targeted in this way, are those of humans or animals and include those listed in the Health and Safety Executive: "Categorisation of Biological Agents according to Hazard and Category of Containment", HMSO, ISBN 0717610381. Particular examples of antigenic agents, which may be included in the recombinant organisms of the invention, include those protective against tetanus such as tetanus toxin H_c fragment, those protective against *Bacillus anthracis* such as *Bacillus anthracis* protective antigen (PA), those protective against *Bordetella pertussis* such as *Bordetella pertussis* P69 antigen, those protective against ~~*Schistoma mansoni*~~ *Schistosoma mansoni* such as ~~*Schistoma mansoni*~~ *Schistosoma mansoni* glutathione-S-transferase, those protective against cholera such as Fibrio cholera β sub-unit, those protective against Herpes simplex virus (HSV) such as HSV glycoprotein D, those protective against HIV infection such as HIV envelope protein, and those protective against ~~*Escherisehia coli*~~ *Escherichia coli* such as *E. coli* LTB subunit or *E. coli* K88 antigen. Other suitable antigenic agents ~~as~~ include those protective against ~~Mycrobacterium~~ *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* as well as agents ~~which protects or enhances~~ that protect or enhance anti-tumour immunity. In particular, it has been found that where the heterologous protein, is able to induce a protective immune response against *Yersinia pestis*, useful protective immunity is found. Examples of antigens, which can produce such ~~as~~ a response, include the F1-antigen of *Yersinia pestis* or an antigenic fragment or variant thereof, or the V-antigen of *Yersinia pestis* or combinations thereof as described in WO 96/28551.